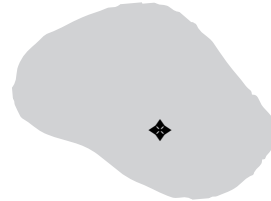


Size: 1,535 acres
Mission: Provided aviation support services
HRS Score: NA
IAG Status: None
Contaminants: Heavy metals, pesticides, PCBs, and petroleum/oil/lubricants
Media Affected: Groundwater, surface water, sediment, and soil
Funding to Date: \$15.2 million
Estimated Cost to Completion (Completion Year): \$0 (FY1999)
Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete Date for BRAC Sites: FY1999



Midway Island

Restoration Background

In 1940, a Naval Station was established at Midway Island. In 1978, the station was redesignated as the Naval Air Facility. The Navy operated and maintained these facilities and provided services and materials to support aviation activities. Since FY88, environmental studies at Midway Naval Air Facility have identified 42 sites. Site types include landfills, disposal and storage areas, a former power plant, a rifle range, and pesticide spill areas.

In July 1993, the BRAC Commission recommended closure of the facility, and the installation was transferred to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for use as a national wildlife refuge. The installation was closed in FY93.

In FY93, the installation formed a BRAC cleanup team (BCT) that includes representatives from the Navy and EPA Region 9. The BCT meets quarterly to review the facility's cleanup status and develop the strategy for future cleanup. The BCT and the BRAC project team formed the cornerstone of successful environmental cleanup at Midway. Reuse of property has been expedited as an eco-tourism business for the island.

Representatives of the Navy, EPA, and other federal agencies have formed a partnership that has successfully reduced cleanup costs through cooperative decision-making. Because Midway Island is remote and sparsely populated, no local community issues affect it. The installation does not have a Restoration Advisory Board because there are no regulatory agencies with authority over the area or an affected community. An information repository was established at the University of Hawaii at Manoa in FY95.

An Environmental Baseline Survey was completed in FY94, and a Human Health Risk Assessment was completed for all 42 sites in FY95. In FY97, demobilization of the Navy from the Midway Naval Air Facility occurred. The baseline Ecological Risk Assessment for one site was completed. Remedial Investigations and Feasibility Studies were performed for five sites. Removal Actions were completed to remove contaminated soil from eight sites, cap landfills at two sites, remove drums from four sites, remove marine debris from four sites, and cap abandoned outfalls at one site. The complete remediation of soil and groundwater at 15 underground storage tank sites was accomplished. Technological initiatives included use of an on-site laboratory and implementation of a soil vapor extraction and bioslurping system. A direct-push geoprobe was utilized for site characterization.

During FY97, the BCT agreed on closure of all restoration sites and maintenance of two sites (Site 1 and 2 landfills) until summer FY98. The BCT terminated the operation of the fluid injection vacuum extraction cleanup system for petroleum, oil, and lubricants from underground and aboveground storage tanks. On 22 May 1996, custody of, and accountability for, Midway Island was transferred from the U.S. Navy to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) with the signing of the transfer document by Assistant Secretary of the Navy Robert Pirie and Assistant Secretary of the Interior Bonnie Cohan. The transfer resulted from the dedicated efforts and close personal relationships established over the past 3 years between the Navy, EPA Region 9, and the USFWS. The BCT also finalized the last BRAC Cleanup Plan. By the end of FY97, all environmental work at Midway was complete, with the exception of long-term monitoring (LTM) at Sites 1 and 2. The Executive Order

transferring legal enforcement authority to the USFWS was signed on 31 October 1996. Final base closure was completed on 30 June 1997.

Restoration Progress

The final round of LTM was conducted at the Bulky Waste Landfill (Site 1) and the Runway Landfill (Site 2). Preliminary data indicate that no further action is required. The eco-tourist concessionaire contractor discovered an abandoned aviation gasoline pipeline in December 1997. Several drums of asphalt were also discovered at the end of the runway. The aviation gasoline line was properly cleaned and abandoned in place and the drums were removed and properly disposed of off the island.

LTM is complete and the transfer of Midway is fully accomplished.

SITES ACHIEVING RIP OR RC PER FISCAL YEAR

